

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Colorado River Water Projects Enterprise)
of the Colorado River Water Conservation District)

Project No. 11880-000

SIXTH SEMI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
UNDER THE PRELIMINARY PERMIT
FOR THE PROPOSED
RITSCHARD DAM UNIT WATER POWER PROJECT

Colorado River Water Projects Enterprise
of the Colorado River Water Conservation District
P.O. Box 1120
201 Centennial Street, Suite 200
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602

May 25, 2004

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY
COMMISSION

*Sixth Semi-Annual Progress Report
Preliminary Permit—Project No. 11880-000*

- (1) The Colorado River Water Conservation District, acting by and through its Colorado River Water Projects Enterprise, submits the following progress report as required under the Director's order of June 25, 2001, issuing the preliminary permit. This progress report is made in order that the applicant may secure and maintain priority for a license for the project under Part I of the Federal Power Act while obtaining the data and performing the acts required to determine the feasibility of the project and to support an application for a license. The report follows the requirements of Part 1 of the Federal Power Act and related regulations and Articles 1 through 4, set forth in standard form P-1.

- (2) The location of the proposed project is:

State or Territory:	Colorado
County:	Grand
Township or Nearby Town:	Kremmling
Stream or other body of water:	Muddy Creek and Wolford Mountain Reservoir

- (3) The exact name, business address, and telephone number of the applicant are:

Colorado River Water Projects Enterprise
of the Colorado River Water Conservation District
P.O. Box 1120
201 Centennial Street, Suite 200
Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81602

Telephone number	970-945-8522
Fax number	970-945-8799

- (4) Progress report:

On February 6, 2001, the River District filed an application for a three-year preliminary permit under Section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act to study the proposed Ritschard Dam Project No. 11880-000. On June 25, 2001, the Director of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") issued a preliminary permit for the project (95 FERC 62.264).

During the term of the permit, the River District undertook a preliminary feasibility study

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regarding the project that evaluated power generation, identified potential power markets, and provided conceptual engineering alternatives and feasibility level cost estimates. The analyses indicated that a hydroelectric unit at the Ritschard Dam is potentially feasible from engineering and economic perspectives. The River District also met with state and federal agencies to receive input on the project.

On June 12, 2003, the River District requested approval to use the Alternative Licensing Procedures ("ALP") in preparing an application for license or exemption from licensing of the Ritschard Dam Unit Water Power Project. In a letter dated April 5, 2004, FERC approved the River District's use of the ALP because of the public support for using a process that would foster improved communication, participation and cooperation among the participants and thus simplify and expedite the licensing/exemption process.

The River District Board, staff and special counsel for this project have had many meetings and discussions during the past six months on whether to seek another preliminary permit or license at this time. After much study and discussion, the River District Board decided not to apply for another preliminary permit or a license at the present time. However, the River District Board directed the River District staff to continue to evaluate the desirability of developing this hydropower project. Therefore, the River District will continue to examine the feasibility of this project and may apply for a license or another preliminary permit in the future.

Currently, the River District is investigating a possible enlargement of the storage capacity of Wolford Mountain Reservoir. The contemplated enlargement will not raise the height of the dam, nor would it alter the configuration of any hydroelectric generation facilities, but it would increase the height of the spillway. The River District plans to initiate discussions with FERC staff in the near future to discuss the contemplated enlargement of Wolford Mountain Reservoir.

Please contact our project manager, James F. Pearce, at (970) 945-8522, if you require additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Eric Kuhn, General Manger
Colorado River Water Conservation District
P.O. Box 1120
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602